

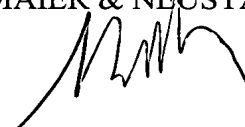
Claims 9-17 are presently pending; Claims 1-8 and 18-20 having been cancelled by way of the present amendment. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that Claims 9-17 are allowed.

Applicants thank Examiner Punnoose for the interview granted Applicants' representatives on July 18, 2002. During the interview, proposed amendments to pending independent Claims 1, 18, and 20 were discussed.

Applicants respectfully submit that because only the allowed claims remain pending, the application is in condition for immediate allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.


Gregory J. Maier
Registration No. 25,599
Robert T. Pous
Registration No. 29,099
Attorneys of Record

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

JUL 24 2002

RECEIVED



22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000
Fax. (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 10/00)

GJM:RTP:KDP/smi:brf

I:\atty\kdp\19's\192520US2\192520US amend nt after final.wpd

192520US2

Marked-Up Copy

Serial No: 09/594,479

Amendment Filed on: July 24, 2002

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled).

Claims 18-20 (Cancelled).